



Thomas A. Schatz
President

April 24, 2007

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator,

Currently, you are debating S. 791, America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Act. Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) will offer several amendments to this legislation. On behalf of the more than 1.2 million members of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW), I ask that you support these amendments.

- S. Amdt. 917 – This amendment expresses the sense of the Senate that any new spending should be offset. There is no Congressional Budget Office score for the bill and therefore, CCAGW must rely on the Office of Management and Budget's estimate that this legislation will cost taxpayers \$61 billion over the next four years and would create 20 new programs;
- S. Amdt. 921 – CCAGW has long opposed the Advanced Technology Program. This amendment eliminates this classic corporate welfare program;
- S. Amdt. 918 – This amendment will sunset this legislation after four years and force the Congress to re-evaluate its worth. CCAGW believes all government programs should not go into perpetuity; and,
- S. Amdt. 922 – This amendment will add much needed accountability and transparency to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grants.

CCAGW agrees that our nation must remain competitive and that our students and workers need to lead the world in science and in math. But increasing the size and cost of government and creating a Washington top-down approach in improving education is not that way to accomplish this goal. I urge you to support these amendments that will improve S. 791. All votes on S. 791 will be among those considered in CCAGW's *2007 Congressional Ratings*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Schatz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.